

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SW NO

SUBJECT: NOBEL PEACE PRIZE CEREMONIAL PROCEDURES

REF: STATE 206275

1. THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO WAS PROVIDED BY DIRECTOR AUGUST SCHOU OF THE NOBEL INSTITUTE, WHO SAID THAT A LETTER WILL BE SENT OCTOBER 19 BY INTERNATIONAL MAIL TO THE PRIZE WINNERS EXPLAINING THE ARRANGEMENTS AND CEREMONIES.

2. IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO REARRANGE THE SCHEDULE TO FIT THE SECRETARY'S CALENDAR AT NATO. ALL NOBEL PRIZES, BOTH THOSE IN STOCKHOLM AND THE PEACE PRIZE (THE ONLY ONE PRESENTED IN OSLO) ARE PRESENTED ON DECEMBER 10. BEING THE ANNIVERSARY OF NOBEL'S DEATH, THE DATE IS SACROSANCT. CONCEIVABLY SOME OF THE CEREMONIES COULD BE SHUFFLED BUT THE FACT THAT TWO PERSONS ARE INVOLVED WILL ALSO MAKE THIS DIFFICULT. (THE LEFT CAN BE EXPECTED, OF COURSE, TO EXPLOIT ANY SERIOUS DEPARTURE FROM TRADITION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANTI-NATO PROPAGANDA.)

3. THE FOLLOWING IS WHAT WE KNOW AT PRESENT ABOUT THE MAIN EVENTS:

A. PRIZEWINNERS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE IN OSLO ON DECEMBER 9. THIS YEAR A PRESS CONFERENCE IS THE ONLY OFFICIAL FUNCTION ON THAT DATE SINCE IT IS A SUNDAY. NORMALLY THE PRESS CONFERENCE IS ARRANGED BY THE EMBASSY OF THE WINNER'S COUNTRY WHEN THE PRIZE GOES TO AN INDIVIDUAL. THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, SINCE THERE ARE TWO WINNERS AND

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SINCE NORTH VIETNAM DOES NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN

NORWAY, THE NOBEL COMMITTEE WILL CALL THE CONFERENCE AND WILL HOLD IT AT THE NOBEL INSTITUTE (ALMOST DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE AMERICAN EMBASSY). IT WILL BE SOMETIME IN THE AFTERNOON OR EVENING, THE EXACT TIME TO BE ARRANGED DEPENDING ON THE ARRIVAL TIMES OF THE WINNERS.

B. WINNERS HAVE AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING OF NORWAY, NORMALLY ON DECEMBER 9. RATHER THAN SUNDAY, HOWEVER, AUDIENCE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY OCCUR ON DECEMBER 10, PROBABLY IN THE MORNING. THE AUDIENCE IS REQUESTED BY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE WINNER'S COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH IN THE CASE OF MR. LE DOC THO, THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE COMMITTEE WILL REQUEST THE AUDIENCE, AGAIN BECAUSE OF LACK OF NORTH VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION. IT IS NOT YET CERTAIN WHETHER THE TWO WINNERS WILL HAVE A JOINT OR SEPARATE AUDIENCE WITH THE KING.

C. THE AWARD CEREMONY ITSELF IS NORMALLY HELD AT 1330 HOURS DECEMBER 10, IN THE MAIN AUDITORIUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO IN DOWNTOWN OSLO. THE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE COMMITTEE, MS. AASE LIONAES WILL GIVE THE INTRODUCTORY SPEECH. IN THE CASE OF DR. N.E. BORLAUG, AMERICAN WINNER IN 1970, HER SPEECH RAN TO 13-DOUBLE-SPACED PAGES. SHE THEN PRESENTS THE DIPLOMAS AND MEDALS TO THE WINNERS. THEY REPLY WITH A SHORT TALK OF ABOUT THREE DOUBLE-SPACED PAGES. MUSIC IS PLAYED BETWEEN EACH STEP IN THE CEREMONY. WHEN ASKED WHO WOULD REPLY FIRST OF THE TWO WINNERS, DIRECTOR SCHOU SAID IT WOULD PROBABLY BE HANDLED ALPHABETICALLY. THE AUDIENCE IS INVITED BY THE COMMITTEE AND INCLUDES THE KING, ROYAL FAMILY, DIPLOMATIC CORPS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AMONG OTHERS.

D. THE NEXT OFFICIAL FUNCTION IS A DINNER AT DOWNTOWN OSLO'S GRAND HOTEL THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 10 BY THE PRIZE COMMITTEE. IT WILL INCLUDE A WELCOMING SPEECH BY A COMMITTEE MEMBER, REMARKS BY EACH OF THE WINNERS, AND AT THE END OF THE MEAL A SHORT TALK BY ONE OF THE NORWEGIAN GUESTS (THE TRADITIONAL NORWEGIAN "TAKK FOR MATEN" OR THANKS TO THE HOST FOR THE MEAL).

E. THE MUNICIPALITY OF OSLO NORMALLY OFFERS A LUNCHEON FOR WINNERS ON DECEMBER 11. MAYOR BULL OF OSLO SAID NO PLANS ARE MADE UNTIL THE PRIZE COMMITTEE REQUESTS THE LUNCHEON, WHICH THEY HAVE NOT DONE YET. THE LOCATION CAN VARY, BUT IT IS SOMETIMES AT A CONFIDENTIAL

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SMALL HOUSE OWNED BY THE CITY IN SUBURBAN OSLO. IT IS LESS FORMAL THAN THE DINNER, BUT WHEN ASKED ABOUT SPEECHES, BULL SAID HE COULD NOT TELL YET.

F. WINNERS GIVE A LECTURE ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 11, NORMALLY AT THE NOBEL INSTITUTE OR THE UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM, THE SAME IN WHICH THE CEREMONIES OF DECEMBER 10 TAKE PLACE. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT YET CERTAIN, THIS YEAR THE LECTURES OF THE WINNERS WILL

PROBABLY BE IN THE AUDITORIUM (FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO IN OSLO AS THE "AULA"). THE TIME OF THE LECTURE IS USUALLY 1900 HOURS BUT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN SET FOR THIS YEAR. ALTHOUGH THE SUBJECT IS LEFT VERY MUCH TO HIS DISCRETION, THE WINNER CUSTOMARILY TALKS IN DETAIL ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES WHICH RESULTED IN HIS WINNING THE PRIZE. HE IS EXPECTED TO SPEAK FOR ABOUT 40 MINUTES. THIS IS THE LAST OFFICIAL EVENT ON THE PROGRAM.

G. SUITES FOR BOTH WINNERS HAVE BEEN RESERVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT THE GRAND HOTEL.

H. WE WILL KEEP THE DEPARTMENT INFORMED AS ARRANGEMENTS BECOME MORE CONCRETE. IN THIS REGARD, THE PRIZE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE ANOTHER MEETING IN MID-NOVEMBER TO WORK OUT DETAILS, TIMES, PLACES, ETC. OF THE PROGRAM. WE WILL BE EXPLORING INFORMALLY WITH THE COMMITTEE WAYS IN WHICH THE SECRETARY'S PROGRAM MIGHT BE SHORTENED IN OSLO, BUT WE DO NOT PROPOSE TO PRESS FOR ANY SPECIFIC CHANGES UNTIL ADVISED BY THE DEPARTMENT E.G. THAT THE NATO SESSION WILL DEFINITELY NOT BE POSTPONED. BYRNE

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